

COMMUNITY NEWS

WEEK

courses, earn advanced diplomas, and receive college credit.

In October 2003, the Alabama Department of Education announced that its Business and Industry Certification (BIC) process, used to certify career/technical education programs for industry compliance, had been awarded certification from the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). The Alabama Department of Education is the only state-level education agency in the U.S. to receive this certification.

According to the Association for Career and Technical

Education, research shows that many of the country's fastest-growing occupations require the technical, communication, time management, and leadership skills taught in America's career/technical education programs.

Research also shows that among high school graduates entering the workforce, those with a technical education background earn more than those without this advantage.

To learn more about Alabama CTE Week or any of the activities taking place during this special event, contact Larry Goodson at (334) 897-2266.

CITY

(Continued from Page One)

Grantham said city officials have found the lights completely knocked over and they have found parts broken. He said this can become an expensive problem for the city as it costs about \$300 each to replace the complete light unit.

"We (city) fix the lights, and they (vandals) tear them down," Grantham said. "I don't know why anyone would do this. The walking trail is such a nice asset."

New signs recently were erected at each entrance to the walking trail indicating items not allowed on the walking trail such as bicycles, skateboards, vehicles, etc. Grantham said he found the sign from the Caroline Street entrance Monday morning removed from the ground and thrown into the creek. By Monday afternoon, the sign had been put back in its proper place.

Elba Police Chief Freddy Hanchev said his officers have

increased their patrols in these areas in an attempt to prevent further acts of vandalism from occurring. In regards to the vandalism, he said the person(s) responsible could face criminal mischief charges carrying a sentence of anywhere from one to 10 years in jail and a fine up to \$5,000 depending on the value of the property damaged.

In regards to the disassembled fence, he said if those responsible had taken it from the property, they would face a much stiffer charge of theft.

Grantham said the city is looking at placing surveillance cameras in these areas to try to deter any further vandalism.

"It's just a matter of time before we catch whoever is doing this," said Grantham.

Anyone noticing suspicious activity in these areas is asked to contact the Elba Police Department at 897-2555 or Elba City Hall 897-2333.

Suggestions for putting tax refunds to work

Tens of millions of dollars in tax refunds go unclaimed each year. It is a massive chunk of money that could be used to pay off debt or invest in the future.

In fact, more than \$4,000 tax-refund money did not receive their tax refunds from 2004, which totaled about \$73 million. The average refund was \$871 per taxpayer.

Mike Sullivan, director of education for Take Charge America, a non-profit credit counseling company, says you can't put your money to work if you don't claim it.

"It's easy to lose your financial footing and it's hard to get it back, especially if you live paycheck to paycheck," said Sullivan. "Whether your refund is large or small, paying down debt or stashing away savings can help you become more financially secure."

You can track your tax return at www.irs.gov. Click on the "Where's my refund?" link on the left side of the screen. Have a copy of your return on hand. You will need to provide your social security number (or IRS Individual Taxpayer Identification Number), filing status and the refund amount. Often times, getting your refund is as simple as updating your mailing address.

Sullivan has suggestions for using this year's tax refund to ensure financial security for next year.

Pay Off Debt. First and foremost, pay down debt with high interest rates, like credit cards. If you have several cards, pay off the one with the highest interest rate first. Follow with other auto and school loans.

Put it Towards Your Home. You should also consider using your refund to make an extra house payment. If you don't own a home, you can put the refund money towards a down payment.

Save for Retirement. Put your refund into an IRA. With a traditional IRA, your earnings grow tax-deferred. Depending upon eligibility requirements, contributions can be tax deductible. Contributions to a Roth IRA are not deductible; however withdrawals can be tax-free in certain circumstances.

Save for College. Every little bit counts. The earlier you invest for yourself or your child, the less you will have to worry about student loans leaving you or your child tens of thousands of dollars in debt. Section 529

(Continued from Page One)



ELBA MAYOR JAMES GRIMES (center) signed a proclamation Monday morning, Feb. 6, recognizing the week of Feb. 12-18 as Career/Technical Education Week in the City of Elba. He was joined for the signing by Larry Goodson (left), Elba High School's Career/Technical Education director and Elba City Schools superintendent Danny Weeks (right). In signing the proclamation, Grimes said the career/technical programs in the Elba City School System have shown a genuine commitment to preparing students for their "lives after high school" by providing them opportunities to earn advanced diplomas, explore their individual career options and receive college credit. He further said the Elba City School System is committed to recruiting highly qualified educators and career educators who are dedicated to ensuring that "no child will be left behind." The mayor encourages all citizens to become familiar with the services and benefits offered by the career/technical education programs in the Elba City School System.

Singing set for February 11th at MacArthur Tech Conference Center

Bluegrass and Southern Gospel music will be featured at MacArthur Tech Conference Center, Opp, AL, on Saturday, February 11th. Special guests will be the Wilkerson Family from Troy, AL. The Gospel Echoes from DeFuniak Springs, FL, and the Good News Singers from Opp, AL. Singing will start at 6:00 p.m.

MacArthur Tech is located on highway 331 North of Opp. There is no admission charge. A love offering will be received. For more information call (334) 493-4965.

Kinston High School - 2nd Quarter Honor Rolls

"A" HONOR ROLL

GRADE 7: James Jones, Ashley Snell, Daniel Williamson Jr.

GRADE 8: Lee Devine, Hannah Forehand, Bethany Holley, Erika Rhodes, Amber Smith

GRADE 9: Maeghann Hawthorne, Wesley Hunko

GRADE 10: Suzanne Chance, Kourtney Pierce, Christie Whigham

GRADE 11: None

GRADE 12: Ashley Carter, Joshua Driver

"A-B" HONOR ROLL

GRADE 7: Hunter Anderson, Trent Archie, Allison Bess, Dylan Davis, Bethany Hawthorne, Sara Mock, Jahnna Pierce, Justin Ward

GRADE 8: Cassandra Dean,

Gavin Free, Amber Jacobs, Kit Johnson, Ric Johnson, Taylor Lentini, Courtney Parrish, Kallie Rhodes, Taylor Rogers, Erin Shaw

GRADE 9: Sallie Coale, Dalton Fuller, Alix Kelley, Hollie Kilcrease, D.J. Powell, Eric Wis

GRADE 10: Whitney Davis, Nicole Hataway, Blake Johnson, Jessica Johnson, Tiffany Lee, Heather Marlowe, Ashley McCall, Caitlin Tindell, Monica Wilford

GRADE 11: Brock Barlette, Nicole Boswell, Jonathan Edwards, Brad Elmore, Tasha Williamson

GRADE 12: A.J. Davis, Amanda Hataway, Brittany Hunko, Jessie Jacobs, Danielle Johnson, Casey Mack, Garret Parker, Graham Weeks

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giveaway

INSIDE

Tom & Christina
Anderson
announce birth
of son

INSIDE

Whitley Kilcrease
meets renowned
author

The Elba Clipper

Volume 109, Number 36

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, February 16, 2006

1 Section, 12 Pages

Sale of Dorsey Trailers again postponed by bankruptcy court

The bankruptcy court case for Dorsey Trailers was again continued Tuesday, Feb. 14.

The bankruptcy judge gave a 30-day extension due to continued unresolved environmental issues, according to Elba Mayor James Grimes.

Grimes said the potential buyer has continually expressed concern with existing environmental issues which have been closely watched by the Alabama Department of Environmental Protection (ADEM) for years.

The exact extent of these problems are unknown. Some engineering experts are of the opinion that the exact extent of pollution can only be determined by extensive (and expensive) testing.

Others have indicated the threat has probably diminished over the last several years and is likely only a very minimal contamination as the hazardous chemicals have been further dispersed underground with each rain.

During Elba City Council meeting Garbage pick-up transition reported to be smooth

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba City Council met Monday evening with Mayor James Grimes back at the helm. He had missed the last meeting due to a hospital stay.

Grimes opened the meeting with an expression of gratitude to all those who prayed for his recovery during that period.

Police Chief Freddy Hanchev reported activity was basically routine except for the recent resignation of a radio dispatcher.

A review of the financial statement by Mayor Grimes showed income above projected amounts and overall expenses lower than expected. Grimes

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Officials reveal identity of 1993 murder suspect

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Nearly two weeks after officials announced a positive DNA match in the 1993 murder of Edna Youngblood Reeves, Pike County Sheriff Russell Thomas and Twelfth Judicial Circuit District Attorney Gary McAlley held another joint press conference Thursday afternoon, Feb. 9, to reveal the identity of the suspect.

Sheriff Thomas said the Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences had notified his office that the semen taken from the vaginal swabs from Reeves matched the DNA profile of Mason Alex Sims, born Feb. 14, 1947, of the Coosada community in Elmore County, Ala.

The 74-year-old woman was brutally murdered Aug. 14, 1993 in her home, a hundred yards off Highway 87, in the Springhill Community between Elba and Troy.

"During the course of this investigation, we learned through a 1975 Board of Pardons and Paroles report that Sims had been employed as a truck driver for C.O. Reeves Trucking for a short period of three months in 1974 some 19 years prior to her rape and murder," Thomas said.

The sheriff said Sims was sentenced in 1975 to serve three years in the penitentiary for a conviction of grand larceny. He said the state pardon and parole records also revealed Sims was sentenced April 10, 1981 to serve a 40-year penitentiary sentence for the Nov. 1980 robbery first-degree of Hardens Grocery in Montgomery.

In that incident, Thomas said Sims was reported to have taken a female hostage by threatening to kill her with a knife.

"After his conviction, he escaped and on May 3, 1982 was sentenced to life in the penitentiary for a conviction of escape in the first degree," said Thomas. "After serving 12 years in prison, he was transferred to a work release program

where he remained until he was granted parole by the Alabama Parole Board some 59 days before the rape and brutal murder of Edna Youngblood Reeves."

The sheriff said the investigative leads helped local officials determine that the suspect, Mason Alex Sims, died Nov. 18, 2005 in San Diego, Calif. He was employed at that time by a trucking company in Chilton County. At the time of his death, Thomas said Sims was in the cab of his 18-wheeler backed up to a loading dock in San Diego. He reportedly suffered an aneurysm.

Thomas said Sims is buried in Pike County. He was 58 years old at the time of his death.

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VALENTINE'S DAY TOOK CENTER STAGE Tuesday, Feb. 14, at Elba High School as numerous deliveries of flowers, balloons, stuffed animals and more were made by local florists. Such gifts of love are familiar sites every year on Feb. 14th as Valentine's Day is celebrated. Traditionally, the day is recognized as one of the quietest of the year for florists, and that certainly seemed to be true this year in Elba as floral deliveries were made constantly throughout the day to businesses, schools and homes. Elba High School teacher Karen Davis (center, holding a teddy bear) helped organize the many gifts delivered to the high school Tuesday for students. The Valentine gifts were placed along the stage in the auditorium waiting to be picked up by their recipients at the end of the school day. Based on such displays, one might imagine this Valentine's Day was filled with lots of smiles and joy as tokens of love were given to one from another.

Coffee County Commission receives reimbursement funds

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Coffee County Commissioners opened bids on four separate items Monday morning, Feb. 13, during their regular bimonthly meeting; however, no action other than to table the bids was taken by commissioners.

Two business submitted bids regarding the lawn care at three county locations (Elba courthouse, Enterprise, courthouse and New Brockton complex).

Fay's Nursery submitted a bid for all three locations. The bid for lawn care at the Elba courthouse was \$9,900 for three years. The bid for lawn care at the Enterprise courthouse was \$15,900 for three years, and the bid for lawn care at the county's New Brockton complex was \$19,500 for three years.

Clark's LawnCare submitted a bid for only the Enterprise courthouse location. That bid was \$25,220 for three years.

Commissioner Doug Dalrymple made a motion with a second from commissioner J.A. Weeks to table the awarding of this bid. The motion passed by a 6-1 vote. Commissioner Robert Stephens cast the lone opposing vote.

Commissioners next opened bids for printers. Five businesses submitted bids including: Intercomp at \$1,119.13, Tech Dept. at \$2,148.10, Action Computer Sales and Service at \$1,040.47, CDWG at \$1,225 and Dell at \$1,872.80.

Commissioners voted to table the awarding of the bid for printers.

Businesses submitted bids for a plotter. Intercomp submitted a bid of \$10,290.47. Tech Depot submitted a bid of \$9,170.60, and Dell submitted a bid of \$7,170. Again, the awarding of the bid was tabled.

The final bids to be opened were for the annual concrete bid. While two companies responded to this bid request, only one actually submitted a bid.

LaFarge Building Materials offered a bid for Class A, Type 1A, 3000 PSI concrete mix at \$101 and a delivery rate for less than five cubic yards at \$80. Couch Ready Mix USA submitted a bid to the request.

County extension coordinator Stan Windham attended Monday's meeting to provide commissioners with a date for the upcoming county Senior Games and Special Olympics. Windham said both events

will be held in Elba. The Senior Games will be held at the Elba High School gymnasium. The Special Olympics will be held at the Elba High School gymnasium.

Commissioners will meet again on Monday, Feb. 20, at 7 p.m. in the Elba High School gymnasium. The next meeting will be on Monday, March 6, at 7 p.m. in the Elba High School gymnasium.

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by Linda Hodge, Editor

The New Brockton Town Council officially answered the question of "who will oversee the Miss New Brockton pageants" Monday evening, Feb. 6, during the council's regular monthly meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Johnnie Herron said the Parks and Recreation Board had agreed to take on the pageants. The board will form a pageant committee with Angi Oakes and Melissa Hutto serving as co-chairs.

The Miss New Brockton pageant is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, March 11.

In a bit of disturbing news, New Brockton street department officials informed council members that a portion of the town's Christmas decorations had been taken. Following the holiday season, five deer and a Christmas tree used as decorations at the street corners were taken.

According to town officials, no one knows what happened to the decorations, therefore, the assumption is that the deer and a Christmas tree were stolen.

Council member Jeff White reported that the water board had 13 new customers sign up for the water system expansion.

The council also briefly discussed a need to make changes to the town's zoning ordinance to accommodate the proposed Mayberry USA subdivision. White said the planning commission already voted in favor of the changes and held its public hearing.

Council members voted unanimously to pay the monthly bills through Jan. 31st. The total bills equaled \$24,543.48 with \$8,687.60 being prepaid and \$15,855.88 to be paid.

In regards to announcements, Herron informed everyone that the Town of New Brockton offices will be closed Monday, Feb. 20, in observance of Presidents' Day. Also, the downtown revitalization committee will meet Tuesday, Feb. 28, at 12:30 p.m., and the next council meeting will be Monday, March 6, at 7 p.m. at town hall.

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Area Happenings

THE MISS PCA SWEETHEART PAGEANT will be held Saturday, Feb. 18, at 6 p.m. at the Zion Chapel High School auditorium. Winners will be crowned in six divisions including: Tiny Miss (0-3), Little Miss (4-6), Petal Miss (7-9), Junior Miss (10-12), Teen Miss (13-15) and Miss (16-18).

THE 30-MEMBER SOUTHEAST ALABAMA COMMUNITY BAND will play a free concert in the Elba High School auditorium Monday, Feb. 20, at 7:30 p.m. The concert is sponsored by the City of Elba and will feature Elba's own Tom Maddox as guest conductor. The band is directed by Dr. John

EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service proposed in 1999 that the bald eagle be removed from the Federal list of threatened and endangered species. That has apparently upset more people than when this same group proposes adding a bird, fish or animal to the endangered list! We should look at this as a victory, as just a few short years ago there were dire predictions of this bird becoming extinct. Now Alabama citizens, mostly in North Alabama, can often look up and see one of America's national birds gracefully soaring overhead. There are even bird lover trips to Alabama just to see and/or photograph the once rare bald eagles.

Eagles are still on the endangered list. If you don't believe that just ask the Arkansas farmer who was just sentenced to five years in jail, fined \$50,000 and ordered to pay \$11,000 restitution to the State of Arkansas (we assume for the value of the bird) and \$23,000 per year cost to the taxpayers for his incarceration. Both illegal poisoning and witness tampering charges were involved in this long running federal case.

There is a Letter to Editor on page three this week from a mother who is obviously still hurting badly from the tragic loss of her military son. Most of us can only guess at the pain this family continues to experience, yet we can express our deep, heartfelt sympathy to them. Hope friends and members of their church will make an extra effort to help these folks shoulder their burden.

Vice President Dick Cheney is in the news this week for accidentally shooting hunting partner Harry Wittington, age 78, with a 28 gauge shotgun in a quail hunting accident last Saturday. The national press was a bit slow in taking verbal shots at Cheney, and we were beginning to wonder why a press corp that ripped former VP Dan Quayle up and down over what many perceived as an error at a spelling bee could ignore this action. Now they are making up lost time. However since Mr. Wittington had some additional medical problems on Tuesday, this banner might lighten up a bit until his health improves.

While it shouldn't come as a surprise, we are amazed at the Alabama House of Representative committee vote on the Education Trust Fund budget last week. Probably no one expected the education budget proposed by Governor Riley to survive intact, but it still is frightening to see that it was ALA's Paul Hubbard's version of the budget which did survive. How much longer will Alabama voters believe the story line that "we are here to help the students" when any additional money goes solely to teacher pay raises? We also see other problems with the budget as it is presently worded. The lawmakers are permanently spending funds "to the wire" when we know there is no guarantee this level of taxes will keep coming into the state coffers. Hopefully, before the budget goes to the governor for signature, sinner heads will prevail and someone will rewrite the bill to channel some of the increased tax funds into facility improvements.

The 2006 Winter Olympics are underway in the mountains of Italy. Americans tend to measure the success of these events by the number of medals (mostly the gold) won by "our side". Using that measure, it can be safely said that snowboarding is obviously an American sport. Both men and women United States competitors won the Gold and Silver this week in snowboarding's halfpipe event. But alas, one of our long time figure skating favorites withdrew with an injury.

Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, beginning Monday, Feb. 6, 2006, investigated the following incidents: one death investigation, one harassing communication, two for domestic violence, one gas drive off two for criminal mischief, one harassment and one burglary.

The following arrests were made: two for domestic violence, two for assault, one for criminal trespassing and one on a child support warrant.

Traffic citations issued during the week were as follows: one for no proof of insurance, three for speeding, one for an open container, one for running a red light and one for driving with a suspended driver's license.

Daily activity highlights for the week were as follows: MONDAY, FEB. 6 - Coffee County EMS dispatched to 603 Mullins Circle (8:15 a.m.); Disturbance (noise) reported on Oak Ave. (1:28 p.m.); Fight reported at Big/Little West on Hickman Ave. (5:55 p.m.).

TUESDAY, FEB. 7 - Domestic disturbance reported at 1221 Jones Circle (3:43 p.m.); Two-vehicle wreck reported Davis St. at the bridge (3:57 p.m.); Coffee

County EMS dispatched to 611 N. Claxton Ave. (4:35 p.m.).

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 8 - Routine activity.

THURSDAY, FEB. 9 - Wreck (vehicle vs. deer) reported on Hwy. 166 (9:01 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 834 E. Davis St. (9:34 p.m.).

FRIDAY, FEB. 10 - River stage 8-17 feet (7:30 a.m.); Wreck reported on Claxton Ave. (11:19 a.m.).

SATURDAY, FEB. 11 - Coffee County EMS dispatched to 1032 Martin Luther King Dr. Lot 8 (9:53 p.m.).

SUNDAY, FEB. 12 - Coffee County EMS dispatched to 1224 Jones Circle (2:42 p.m.).

CALL CRIMESTOPPERS @ 897-3881 TO REPORT A CRIME & REMAIN ANONYMOUS

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Coffee County & Surrounding Counties - \$21 per year
6 Months - \$11, including city & state tax
Alabama Counties - \$24 per year - including tax
6 months - \$13
Outside Alabama - \$27 per year - 6 months - \$15

Treatment for congenital heart defects improving at a rapid pace

Her baby was just two hours old when Laurie Chapman, a resident of Elba, was told her newborn daughter would have to stay in the ICU because "her color wasn't right." After running some tests it was determined that she had a heart defect of some sort, but since the hospital did not specialize in pediatric cardiology, she would need to be transported to another hospital to undergo further testing.

The doctors started baby Brooke on a medication that would open a duct in her heart so she would remain stable until transportation could be arranged. At 7 the next morning (now 7 hours old), Brooke was transported by a special air ambulance jet from Dothan to UAB in Birmingham. The doctors explained to Laurie and her husband, Jim, that Brooke would be undergoing a chest x-ray and echocardiogram later that day to determine what was wrong with her heart.

After a long day of waiting to hear something, Jim and Laurie were called and told Brooke would have to go directly to the catheterization lab to try to open her small Aortic Valve. It had been determined that she had hypoplastic left heart syndrome and would most likely need open-heart surgery — three times — to overcome the problem. But Brooke was among the lucky ones with this defect in that she had a right ventricle, it just didn't work properly, so they were going to try to repair her heart without doing the surgeries first.

Jim and Laurie were able to go to Birmingham the next day to be with Brooke. After a month at UAB and many different approaches to trying to "fix Brooke" had failed, the doctors decided it was time for her to be transported to yet another hospital where they could do the first of the three surgeries required to correct her defect.

So, Brooke and Laurie were transported by air ambulance again, but this time to Children's Hospital Boston, and Jim joined them later as he had to take a commercial flight. Dr. Roth, Brooke's pediatric cardiologist,

carefully explained hypoplastic left heart syndrome, or HLHS, and the purpose of the three operations that were planned for their little girl. For reasons not well understood, the left side of the heart fails to develop properly in children with HLHS. A solution must be fashioned to make the right ventricle take over the left

ventricle's job, which is to pump blood to the body.

She underwent her first surgery at one month of age and her second at six months of age. Brooke is now awaiting a third surgery when she will have to undergo the third, and final, open heart surgery.

"We have been told that Brooke has to be 33 pounds and she is currently 29 pounds," says Laurie.

Now 3 and a half years old, Brooke romps around like any other youngster, showing few signs of the heart defect that affected her so much in her young life. She is small for her age and doesn't like to eat much, like many children with heart problems, but otherwise healthy.

Brooke is one of about 1 million Americans who have structural problems with their hearts that developed before they were born. The American Heart Association estimates eight out of every 1,000 babies born in the United States will have some form of congenital heart disorder. Most of them are mild. But severe heart defects, such as Brooke's, are the leading cause of death in the first year of life.

Almost twice as many children die from congenital heart disease every year as from childhood cancer, the AHA reports.

The picture is improving, though, at a pace that brings hope to patients and the people who care for them.

The outlook for HLHS has changed enormously over the past two decades. 16 years ago, the condition was considered inoperable in most parts of the country. Some children were considered for heart transplants. Other children were sent home with comfort care until they died.

Now the mortality rate for the first and most difficult of the three HLHS operations — in which surgeons reroute blood vessels in infants soon after birth — is between one percent and two percent for children with no other complications. The three-to-five-year survival rate after all three operations is better than 90 percent.

Advances are coming not just in HLHS treatment. Overall sur-

vival rates are above 98 percent. "I believe that this improvement in survival rates for serious congenital heart disease in the last 30 years may be the single most striking success story in all of medicine," said Dr. James E. Lock, cardiologist-in-chief at Children's. "Before the '70s, mortality rates were extremely high and long-term survival rates were extremely poor. Since then, essentially every form of congenital heart disease can now be successfully managed for decades, using surgical techniques, catheterization techniques and medical management."

This week is National Heart Defect Awareness Week. You can visit www.littlehearts.org for more information on congenital heart defects.

Valentine giveaway winner



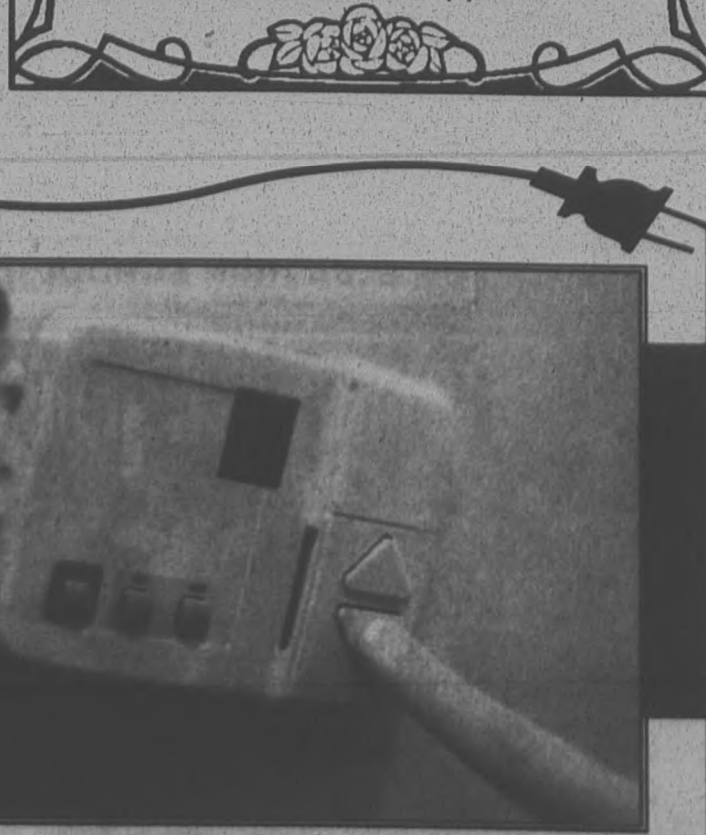
Valentine shopping became an easy task for Brandon Bowers (shown above) Monday, Feb. 13, when his name was picked as the lucky winner of the Relay for Life Valentine Basket giveaway sponsored by The Peoples Bank of Coffee County - Elba office. In winning the fund raising raffle, Bowers received prizes estimated at over \$400 including: restaurant gift certificates, one night stay at a local bed and breakfast, candy, pedicure and nail polish, body lotion and conditioner, pearl necklace and earrings, perfume, watches, hair products, pendant, dozen roses, balloon, stuffed animals and basket. Bank officials said the Valentine basket giveaway was a very successful fund raising event for bank's Relay for Life team, and they thanked everyone who supported the effort. Proceeds raised with this giveaway will benefit the Coffee County Chapter of the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life event to be held later this year.



Frances D. Brunson
Feb. 27, 1942 - Feb. 14, 2001

A Sweetheart of a Wife, Mother,
Grandmother and Friend. You
are truly missed by all of us.

"I thank my God every time I
remember you." Philippians 1:3



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I am responding to the "Letter to the Editor" on January 26 about Jason Jordan. I understand how Mr. Culliver feels and why.

These young people are giving their all to our country and their families who support them are giving their all to their son or daughter. I agree the importance not only Jason's life but everyone who has given their life while on active duty, war time or peace time, who will never come home alive. They should be remembered and honored for all to see young and old.

Our son PFC Brian Thomas Bleason was killed on active duty as a military police officer at the age of 20 on August 9, 2000. He was an only son and was killed while on patrol as a passenger in the patrol car when it crashed. He was with the 209th Military Police at Fort Polk, La., and had served only six months.

We were not only from Coffee County but our family for generations. Brian was a graduate of Enterprise High School.

Sadly our son who was the only one killed on active duty that we know of before the war from Coffee County was not allowed to be honored on the wall at the Enterprise Park. We were told by Mayor Boswell that there had to be a cut off and only combat deaths were to be honored. I cannot begin to tell you the pain in our hearts that our son could be counted only as a silent hero.

He took the same oath and gave his all, his life for his country — war time or not. We could not even kiss his face one last time because his body burned up in the crash. Our son was still serving his country on active duty when he was killed. What makes one more important than the other? What more could he have given?

Mayor Boswell said we are proud of all, but would not even mention his name at the dedication of the wall. What is worse is that we have to go by that wall every day and be reminded our son was not worthy to be counted. If he had been killed in a car crash in war time while serving overseas he would have been counted! A sacrifice is a sacrifice and a life is a life.

I pray that these young people will never be forgotten by their schools or home places as our son was forgotten in a cutoff, and there is no room to honor his name even under the word (other) from Coffee County killed while on active duty. Senator Sessions has put our son's name in the Congressional Record to be honored since his own home county would not honor him.

I also want to thank all who have served, war time or not, for our country and made it home alive. They are all heroes to serve our country.

Tammy Persin
New Brockton, AL

SHARE YOUR VIEWS - WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Woodmen of the World/Omaha Woodmen Life Insurance Society

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Field Representative
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The winter of 1916-17 was long, bleak, and cold for people living in northern Russia. In the capital of St. Petersburg, residents faced extreme hardships caused by Russian failures in World War I. A cold snap in February 1917 brought a wave of brutally cold sub-Arctic air to the city. At the time, food supplies were low, as trains attempting to deliver grain to the capital were

stuck in the Russian snowdrifts. Since wood needed to heat homes was scarce and expensive, many working class residents couldn't afford to heat their homes. Even middle class residents could find only enough wood to keep indoor temperatures slightly above freezing.

When the harsh living conditions were combined with two and a half years of failure in the war, discontent that had lain dormant began surfacing. Tsar Nicholas II, an absolute monarch, had taken personal command of the army in 1915. Nearly two years later, the army's ongoing failures had severely tarnished his aura of infallibility. While the city shivered, the Tsar was nearly a thousand miles away in southern Russia.

Thursday, February 23, was international

Women's Day. Women marched through the streets chanting "Down with hunger! Bread for the workers!" Traditionally, authorities reacted to protest demonstrations by ordering soldiers to attack or shoot the protesters. Amazingly, when ordered to charge the crowd, the mounted Cossack soldiers formed their horses into a single file and rode slowly through the demonstrators. Something had changed.

Friday and Saturday saw even more demonstrations. On Saturday, policemen finally obeyed their commanders' orders to fire on the demonstrators. Nine died, but hundreds fought back by charging the police and rescuing those who had been arrested. By early afternoon, the police fled, leaving the city to the demonstrators.

Strangely, political leaders failed to recognize the unfolding danger. While a soldier refusing to obey orders was unsettling, it was discounted as

being the result of poor training. After all, the real soldiers were at the front fighting the war.

Sunday morning was quiet as politicians, demonstrators, soldiers, and policemen attended church services. By early afternoon, a crowd of demonstrators confronted an infantry on the frozen river running through the city. The soldiers fired. Demonstrators fell on the ice, dead. But, rather than stopping them, the demonstrators renewed their determination.

More and more people poured out of their homes. Even the soldiers abandoned their posts and joined the protesters.

By Monday morning, it was over. The government resigned. On Thursday, eight days after the first demonstration, three hundred and three years of Romanov rule ended when Nicholas II abdicated. The first Russian Revolution had succeeded and a new Provisional Government was formed. It was according to the American statement, a "fitting and glorious successor" to the Russian Revolution.

Eight months later, the Provisional Government would fall to communist disciples of Karl Marx called Bolsheviks. Find out more about the Russian Revolution. Take The Web Journey.

Next Week:
The Bolshevik Coup

Russia:
1860-1945

The Russian Revolution:
February - October 1917

This resource, part of Spartacus Educational, includes sections on the events and issues leading up to the revolution, the various political parties vying for control, biographies of many of the major revolutionary figures, and accounts of revolutionary activities written by foreign diplomats and journalists.

Web Address: <http://tinyurl.com/7whmp>

We thank our partners for their commitment to our community, our schools, and our young people. Together, we ensure teachers and students receive all learning materials at no cost to them.

E-mail your questions or comments to editor@elbaclipper.com

Obituaries

JOANN BLACKMON

Mrs. JoAnn Blackmon, age 67, of Elba, Ala., died Tuesday, Feb. 7, 2006 at home after an extended battle with Alzheimer's.

Mrs. Blackmon was a long time active member of Westview Baptist Church in Enterprise, Ala.

Funeral services were held Feb. 10, 2006 from the Chapel of Hayes Funeral Home in Elba with Rev. Donald Hall and Rev. Jack Reynolds officiating. Burial followed in the Zoar Church Cemetery with Hayes Funeral Home of Elba directing.

Mrs. Prigen was preceded in death by her husband, Charles OH Prigen; daughter, Mary Alice Lellow; and son, Robert Daniel Prigen.

Survivors include three daughters: Bobbie (husband Herb) Winters, Elba, Ilene (husband Danny) Cherry Pansey, Ala.; one son: Ronald (wife Brenda) Prigen, Elba; one sister: Dollie Hood, Phenix City, Ala.; one brother: J.T. Price, Elba; 22 grandchildren, 57 great-grandchildren, and 9 great-great-grandchildren.

WILLIE JR. REESE
(HEADY BOY)
Willie Jr. Reese died at home in Elba, Ala. on February 6,

Pre-need funeral planning now available at Hayes Funeral Home
For details Call 897-2225

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ODELL PRIDGEN
Mrs. Odell Prigen, age 86, of

Elba, Ala., died Sunday, Feb. 12, 2006 at Medical Center Enterprise.

Funeral services were held Feb. 14, 2006 at the Coleman Funeral Home Chapel in Enterprise with Rev. Virgil J. Coleman officiating. Burial followed at Mt. Mariah Cemetery, Chancellor, Ala., with Coleman Funeral Home directing.

Survivors include his wife: Obie Jean Reese; seven children: Obie (Elisa) Sconyers, Yuma, Ariz.; Willie (Valerie) Sconyers, Las Vegas, Nev.; Mary (Greg) Sewall, Robert (Amanda) Sconyers, Anisita (Larry) Tyres, Danyell Reese and Vandell Reese, all of Elba; one brother: George Reese, Bellwood, Ala.; two sisters: KZ Brown and Margaret Reese, both of Bellwood, and 10 grandchildren.

MARY NELL SHIVERS
Ms. Mary Nell Shivers died Tuesday, February 7, 2006.

Funeral services were held Feb. 13, 2006 at the Apostolic Church of God of Christ in Opp.

Ala. with Elder George Martin officiating and Coleman Funeral Home directing.

Survivors include her children: Roman Lindsey, Timothy Lindsey and Shandrika Shivers, all of Opp; four sisters: Mary (Lomnie Ray) Coleman, Elba; Nettie (Johnny) Lacey, Lacie Stoudemire, Polly (James Jr.) Stoudemire, all of Opp; three brothers: Willie Mac Lindsey, Opp; George Jr. Lindsey, Andalusia; and Aaron Lindsey, Mobile, Ala.

2-16-chg

CARD OF THANKS

IN LOVING MEMORY OF MY SON - ARTHUR GRADY BLUE III.

We love you & miss you.

Mama, Billy Jr., Your Children, Grandmother, Aunt, Uncle, Niece, Nephews & Lisa

2-16-chg

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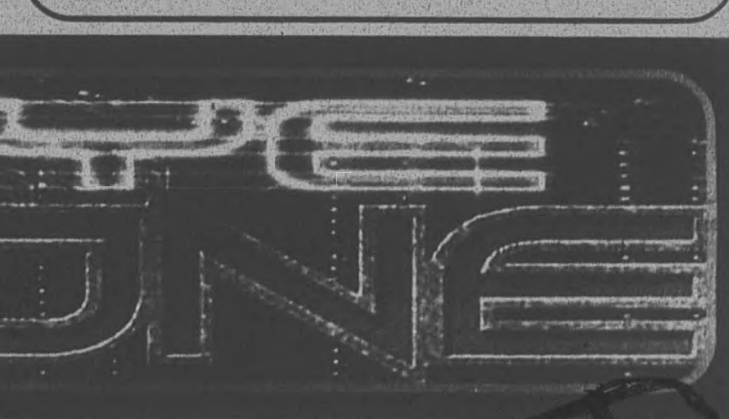
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IT HAPPENED THIS WEEK

On February 21, 1885, one of our best known monuments was dedicated thirty-seven years after the cornerstone was laid on July 4, 1848. Needle like, the monument soars 555 feet into the Washington sky. Designed by Robert Mills, it was built in two stages. The first stage reached a height of 152 feet before construction was halted. Following a twenty year hiatus, construction began again in 1878. In 896 steps have been climbed by millions of visitors since the monument opened in 1888. What is the monument's name? Do you want to find the answer or get more information? Go to <http://tinyurl.com/bga5d>

BEYOND OUR BORDERS

The aurora borealis, or northern lights, are frequently visible in the night sky from northern locations. They are caused by solar particles thrown off by the sun during solar flares and explosions, which then travel towards earth at speeds as high as 1,000,000 miles per hour. After entering the earth's magnetic field, they are drawn to the magnetic poles, colliding with gases as they enter our atmosphere. These collisions create light particles that appear as natural fireworks. Find out more about the northern lights, and see spectacular pictures of them at <http://tinyurl.com/ds9ar>

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The Bolshevik Coup

Russia:
1860-1945

The Russian Revolution:
February - October 1917

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E-mail your questions or comments to editor@elbaclipper.com

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LIFESTYLES



Patsy Riley

First Lady Patsy Riley to speak to RWCC

The Republican Women of Coffee County will hear from Patsy Riley at their luncheon meeting on February 15th, 11:30AM at Po-Foks.

The 1st Lady has worked on several projects since moving to Montgomery. The restoration of the Governors Mansion, safeguarding our children from internet predators, creating awareness of obesity in children and promoting a program, which encourages Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPPY).



Amanda Calhoun and Clint Martin

RaeAnn McCollough and Donny Day
Katie Crowe Parrish and Jamie Parrish

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Percy Sledge and The Aces Band

When a Man Loves a Woman

Feb. 16, 2006 7:30 pm • Enterprise High School

—Presented by Coffee County Arts Alliance—
Gold Corporate Sponsor Martin-Coley Drug Co.

—TICKETS—

ENTERPRISE
• Daniels West Gate Beauty Salon
(406-1617)
• The Pharmacy (347-7800)
DOTHAN
• Western (673-8285)
NEW BROCKTON • New Brockton Florist (894-6737)

This performance is made possible by a grant from
The Alabama State Council on the Arts and The National Endowment for the Arts
www.coffeecountyartsalliance.com

Clyde L. Sadle

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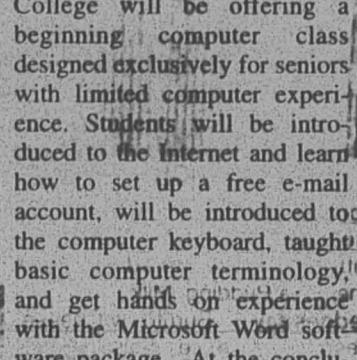
William Chase Cooper

William Chase Cooper is recipient of four year scholarship to UAB

William Chase Cooper of Bessemer, Ala., is the recipient of a four-year University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) Green and Gold Scholarship valued at \$18,000. He is the son of Tom and Stacey Cooper of Bessemer.

Cooper is a senior at the Alabama School of Fine Arts. He is a member of the Summerfest Performing Ensemble and National Honor Society.

Computers for Seniors
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Janet Hinton McLeod

Janet Hinton McLeod has opened an exhibition of her work entitled "Journey" in the LBWCC Art Gallery.

The exhibition, consisting of photographs, paintings, original printmaking, drawings, and a meditative labyrinth installation, reflects her observations and love of travel.

To gain a better understanding of the world and its people, Jane experienced the labyrinth installation, which she could blend in with the locals and look at them and their lands with fresh eyes.

Ms. McLeod, originally from Atlanta, Alabama, received her BA, MA, and MFA degrees from the University of Alabama.

She is a member of the Alabama School of Fine Arts, where she has been teaching since 1994.

Her work is included in juried exhibitions and festivals, as well as, public and private collections.

The exhibition is open to the public and admission is FREE!

The exhibit will culminate with a reception for Ms. McLeod on Thursday, February 16, 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

The LBWCC Art Gallery, located on the Andalusia Campus in the Learning Resources Center, is open Monday-Thursday from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. and on Friday from 8:00 a.m. until noon.

For more information, or to schedule a special tour, call Misti Purvis at 334-881-2250.

City of Opp Rattlesnake Rodeo

Songwriter's Festival set for March 2

Anyone who has ever ventured upon a rattlesnake in the woods knows that every rattlesnake writes its own song, but it is not, however, a pleasant sound. In Opp, however, you will hear much more pleasant sounds as local singers and songwriters perform at the second annual City of Opp Rattlesnake Rodeo Songwriter's Festival on

Thursday, March 2 at 6 p.m. at the Lurleen B. Wallace MacArthur Campus Conference Center.

The Songwriter's Festival brings together both professional and amateur songwriters from all over the Southeast to give them a stage for honing their skills and performing their songs. Winners will compete for a first-place prize of \$250.

Winners of the Festival will also perform locally the week preceding the Rodeo in various venues throughout Opp, as well as performing during Rodeo weekend.

A Songwriter's Workshop will be held prior to the Songwriter's Festival on Friday, February 24 at 6 p.m. at the Lurleen B. Wallace MacArthur Campus Conference Center. This informal training on the basics of songwriting will include a question-and-answer session about publishing, royalties, and copyrights.

For more information about the Songwriter's Workshop and Festival or the City of Opp Rattlesnake Rodeo, visit

www.rattlesnakerodeo.com

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C.C. Arts Alliance to present Percy Sledge & The Aces Band in concert

Percy Sledge and The Aces Band was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. Known as the "Golden Voice of Soul," Alabama born Grammy Winner, Percy Sledge, will lend his smooth stirring voice to "When a Man Loves a Woman." Released in 1964, this song became one of the most beloved Rhythm & Blues classics and established Percy as a premier pop music balladeer.

Other favorites are "Take Time To Know Her," "It's a Wonderful Life," "Warm and Tender Love," "Cover Up," and "I'll Be Your 'Journess' is in LBWCC Arts Gallery

Janet Hinton McLeod has opened an exhibition of her work entitled "Journey" in the LBWCC Art Gallery. The exhibition, consisting of photographs, paintings, original printmaking, drawings, and a meditative labyrinth installation, reflects her observations and love of travel.

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For more information, or to schedule a special tour, call Misti Purvis at 334-881-2250.

Single and Sweetheart Banquet to be held February 25th

A Single and Sweetheart Banquet sponsored by Greater Essence, will be held at Moseley's Studio February 25, from 8:00 - 11:00 p.m. or bta.

This will be for children aged 7-12. Dress attire for girls will be semi-formal or Sunday dress.

There is an admission charge. There will be door prizes. For more information call Allison-897-6393, Cathyette-897-3334 or Ms Liz-897-3439.

SUSAN N. TRUITT

Army National Guard Pvt. Susan N. Truitt has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C.

During the nine weeks of training, the soldier studied the Army mission, history, tradition, and core values, physical fitness, and received instruction in the Andalusia Campus in the Learning Resources Center, is open Monday-Thursday from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. and on Friday from 8:00 a.m. until noon.

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Marissa Miller

Young poet to be published nationally

A young author with Elba roots has been selected to have her poem published in a national publication called "A Celebration of Young Poets."

Marissa Miller, 13, daughter of Mark and Gerri Miller of Millbrook and granddaughter of John and Helen Plant of Elba, had her poem selected out of hundreds submitted for the competition.

Marissa, an honor roll student at East Memorial Christian Academy in Prattville, wrote her poem entitled "America's Faith" in response to the September 11th tragedy in New York.

Mandy McKay, Marissa's English teacher, said, "When it comes to creative writing, Marissa shows great skills and enthusiasm. Marissa puts a great amount of emotion into her work to create beautiful poetry."

Marissa's poem will now be entered into a final competition to select the top ten winners in various grade level categories.

Marissa helps teach the two and three-year olds in Sunday School at First United Methodist Church in Millbrook and is active with the church's youth group. She is a Girl Scout with Troop 125 in Millbrook and Senior Co-Captain of the dance team at Majorette's Baton Twirling Studio in Prattville.

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SCHOOLS

Band dance held Feb. 4th

by Ashton Rodriguez

The annual band dance was held Saturday, Feb. 4, with "Magic of the Orient" as this year's theme.

The dance is held each February as a reward for the hard work and dedication of the members, therefore, band members are allowed to attend the dance with the exception of their date. The attire is formal and allows the band members and their dates an opportunity to dress up and enjoy a night of elegance.

This year's dance was a big success with between 70 and 100 students in attendance. Thank you, band boosters, for all your hard work.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The 2005-2006 Journalism Staff is planning to sell seat cushions. Ads will be sold and placed on the back of the cushion. Each ad is a business card size and can be purchased for \$40.

If you are interested in buying a seat cushion ad, please call 897-2266 and ask for either Mrs. Wanda Bucklew or Stephanie Corder. Donations are welcomed.

JV Lady Tiger softball team excited about season

by Duke Carr

The JV Softball team recently held tryouts for the upcoming season. Although the weather was not cooperative, the team member were able to get out on the field and show what they could do.

When all was said and done, 11 young ladies were chosen to represent the JV team. Megan Anderson, Lyndsey Canley, Chessie Cross, Courtney Driggers, Brittany Gilbert, Courtney Lee, Molly McGuire, Hannah Morgan, Kayla Rials, Courtney Richardson and Bethany Wilson will form this year's team.

Future looks bright for JV baseball

by Shai Yelverton

The future looks bright for Elba baseball. We have the facilities and talent to have a great program.

"The key will be to get more participation especially in the summer," explains Coach Bucklew.

Sign-ups will begin shortly and everyone is encouraged to participate. There are a lot of scholarships opportunities in baseball and we need to take advantage of this. The baseball Hit-a-thon will be



Tiger Tales

Editors:
Shawanna Wright
& Melanie Mularz

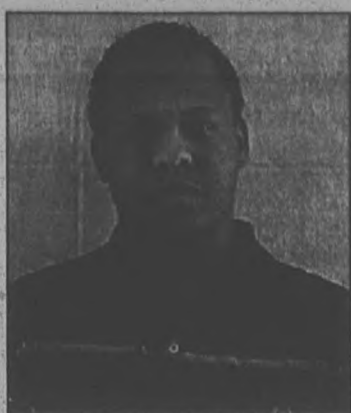
Essay written by Justin Williams selected for "top ten" in contest

by Tierney Starks

Justin Williams is the 17-year-old son of Ernest and Margaret Williams. He is an outstanding student of Elba High School. Justin was selected as one of the top ten in the Future Black Leaders of America Essay Contest. His topic was "Based on the effects of the Bus Boycott fifty years ago, what could you do today as a Future Black Leader, that will have a positive affect on African-Americans fifty years from now?"

"This was a great opportunity for me to express the many issues that African-Americans faced on a daily basis," Williams said. "Not only have I educated others on this issue, I have also gained self knowledge on the hardships African-Americans faced during the Bus Boycott which took place fifty years ago."

Congratulations, Justin, keep up the hard work and dedication.



Justin Williams

on the hardships African-Americans faced during the Bus Boycott which took place fifty years ago."

7th grader Molly McGuire takes a swing at softball practice.



7th grader Molly McGuire takes a swing at softball practice.

The girls will have some tough competition during the course of the season with games against Samson, Zion Chapel, Arion, New Brockton, Kinston, Luverne and Geneva County.

Come out and support the JV Tigers, and congratulations to every girl for making the team.

EHS welcomes teaching intern

by Tori Brooks



We have a bright new face at Elba High School in the person of Cindy Pettie.

She is married to John Pettie and has two boys by the name of Jarrod and Jordan.

Mrs. Pettie has taught at CCA and Opp High School where she taught kindergarten, third grade, and fifth grade. She also taught at OHS as an Algebra teacher. She has taught for 13 years.

Her first impression of Elba High was how nice and welcoming everyone was. She is interning for Mrs. Karen Davis and she most enjoys the students and working with Mrs. Davis.

Another interesting fact about Mrs. Pettie is that she is a NASCAR fan, a scrapbooker and loves basketball.

We would like to welcome Mrs. Pettie with open arms here at Elba High.

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Whitley Kilcrease meets renowned author

by Sydney Brunson

There have been many great authors throughout history. We all know their works, but the chance to meet them face-to-face seldom comes.

Elba junior Whitley Kilcrease had this rare opportunity when she won the annual To Kill a Mockingbird essay contest. Whitley was the junior selected from Elba to have the distinguished honor of meeting the renowned author, Harper Lee.

On Friday, Jan. 27, Whitley and EHS English teacher Kathy Pattie traveled to Tuscaloosa. Whitley first attended a book signing at the Hoole Library, which was followed by a luncheon at the president's mansion.

"It was an awesome experience and I am glad that I was awarded this opportunity," says Kilcrease of her trip. "It is a memory I will treasure forever."

Elba High golfers look forward to upcoming season

by Timothy Jackson

As this year's basketball season comes to an exciting end, the time has come for the sports of Spring.

Mother Nature will soon begin to blow out hot air, with her winds howling and her grass progressing into the lushness of green. Yes... it's finally time to dig around in the closet and pull out those ancient sticks and dirty, dimpled balls in preparation for one of the world's oldest sports, the great game of golf.

In past Elba golf squads, the reassurance of experienced players has helped throughout the season. The only seniority in this year's lineup of Tiger golfers are the two returning seniors, Hunter McGuire and myself, Timothy Jackson.

In my last five years as an Elba golfer, every season has begun with hopes of a state championship but has been shot down with disappointment at the end by finishing an inch too short. Brand new clubs bring about fresh changes, problems, outcomes, and most importantly, new hopes.

Although this year's Elba School's finest staff, Coach Wynn Grimes, who has taken the driver's seat of the faithful, yellow short bus.

In my last five years as an Elba golfer, every season has begun with hopes of a state championship but has been shot down with disappointment at the end by finishing an inch too short. Brand new clubs bring about fresh changes, problems, outcomes, and most importantly, new hopes.

Although this year's Elba



EHS junior Whitley Kilcrease recently was awarded the opportunity to meet renowned author Harper Lee. She said it was an awesome experience she will treasure forever.



Tim's game isn't quite up to par yet!

High School golf team is somewhat young, the returning players are full of heart and plan to push their practice routines and positive attitudes onto the newcomers. While a trip to the state championships is not completely impossible, our Elba Tiger golfers have learned to never give up and are going to be listening intently for the "birdies" chirping and "eagles" soaring, a sound so many golfers absolutely LOVE to hear.

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Students make District and All-State bands

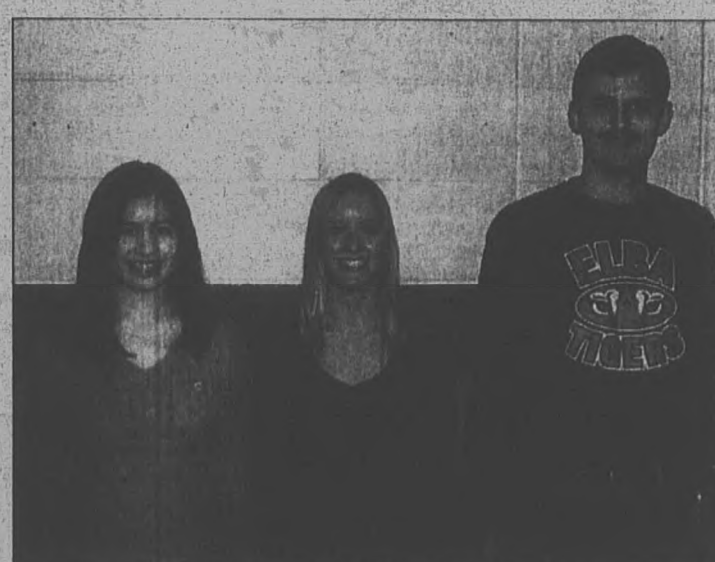
by Lauren McClung

On Saturday, Jan. 28, Elizabeth Weeks, Jared Brooks and Robin Hudson from Elba High School traveled to Troy, Ala. to participate in District 8 and All-State try-outs.

When they arrived they first warmed up on their various instruments and proceeded to their try-out rooms. They performed in three different rooms: a scale room, prepared exercise room and a sight-reading room. This process is very nerve-racking for students, parents and band directors.

They had all practiced for months on their own and sometimes after school with the help of Mr. Jeff Ellis. After try-outs, the students waited in the cafeteria of Troy Elementary School to see their results. All three students made both District 8 honor band and All-State Honor Bands.

All-State bands are the top bands in the state, and it is very prestigious to make even the



Robin Hudson, Elizabeth Weeks and Jared Brooks

lowest chair of All-State. However, this was not the case for our EHS students.

Elizabeth Weeks received the top chair for trumpet in our district and is now a member of the highest honor band in Alabama, the Red Band. Jared Brooks made third chair percussion in the district and is a member of

the Blue Band. Robin Hudson acquired first chair clarinet in the district and is a member of the Jr. High Band.

Congratulations to Elizabeth, Robin and Jared for all their hard work. We hope you represent Elba well at District 8 and All-State Honor Bands. Keep up the good work band!

Student Spotlight

by Melanie Mularz

This week's student spotlight features Jauan Starks. He is the 17-year-old son of Rev. James and Leslie Starks.

Jauan is a senior at Elba High School and an active member of Key Club, FBLA and Chorus. You may have even spotted him walking along side Coach Johnson, since he is the assistant coach for the varsity boys basketball team. He enjoys playing keyboard for his church and many other churches.

Jauan loves going out with his friends, especially going to church. He also likes to play the drums whenever he gets the chance.

After graduation Jauan plans to go to ECCC for two years then transfer to either Alabama A&M or Troy University to major in physical therapy.

He described himself as a upbeat, cheerful person. He is

Jauan Starks

always happy and loves having fun. He is a people person and never meets a stranger. Jauan's favorite saying is "Hello Somebody".

Congratulations, Jauan, on being this week's student spotlight!

SPORTS

Views from....

The Pressbox

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

The prom is just around the corner at Elba High and over the weekend my youngest and her Mom headed out to try on some dresses and get an idea of what she will wear on that special night. They made pictures of how she looked in each dress, so that Dad could put in his two cents worth, but also made it clear they had plans to head out again over the next few weeks. I have the feeling I am going to look at a lot more pictures.

ONCE OVER LIGHTLY....

*** The Elba Tigers upped their record to 18-7 Friday night with an overtime win over New Brockton in the opening round of the area tournament and are now guaranteed a spot in the sub-regionals later this week. The Tigers had split their first two meetings with their cross-county rivals and knew they would have their hands full, and that was certainly the case as they had to score late to send the game into overtime and then battled until the final horn to pull out the win. This group of young men have played together since they were in the recreation leagues and have always been big winners. So, maybe they have saved the best for last and will leave their mark in the record books. C'mon guys, You know you can win, now just go out and do it.

*** The Elba Lady Tigers made history last week by winning the area tournament, in Luverne, and will host a sub-region final this Thursday night at the Elba High gym. The Elba girls had to get past Luverne on its home court to bring home the title, and in doing so gained a measure of revenge for two regular season losses they suffered to their arch-rivals from up the road. Coach Leroy Canley has had some very good teams that didn't win an area title and there is no doubt he has had teams with more talent. However, this bunch of girls has never made excuses and never quit working throughout the season, and all of the sudden are just one win away from a berth in the region tournament, at Troy University. Good luck, girls, and keep it up.

*** The regular season ended last week for the three county schools, and while all the teams were left disappointed after their final losses, it really wasn't that bad a season. Here's a look back....

* New Brockton's boys were under the guidance of their first new head coach in the last three years, but after a while settled in, brought into Coach Paul Marsh's system, and by the end of the season were as good as any team in the area. The Gamecocks were very young and it showed at times. However, the foundation was set and look for the Gamecocks to be a team to watch next season. The Elba Lady Gamecocks won only once during the season, but like the boys were very young and had to learn as they went along. It may take a few years for the youngsters to turn into winners, but after winning only once this year they will have plenty of payback to try and cash in when they get back on the court.

* Kinston's boys may have been the surprise team of the county as the Bulldogs posted 12 wins and were competitive every night they hit the court. Coach Charles Edwards and his team worked hard to improve as the season rolled along and by the midway point in the season were a team no one looked forward to playing. The Bulldogs may not be back quite yet, but their goal is back in sight. The Lady Bulldogs set a school record for wins, but lost some of their spark late in the season and bowed out in the opening round of the area tournament. These girls have been together since they played with dolls and have gotten better and better no matter the sport. So, next season look for the Lady Bulldogs to set new records and set even higher goals.

* Zion Chapel's boys struggled through a winless season, but battled hard every time they took to the court and with a break or two could have posted at least a couple of wins on their side of the ledger. The Rebels had pretty good size and some players that played hard each and every night. It just wasn't their year and the losses mounted so did the frustrations. You can bet next season the Rebels will be looking to pay some folks back. The Lady Rebels got off to fast start and appeared to be an area title contender, but stumbled down the stretch and then went out in the opening round of the area tournament. The Lady Rebels were vastly improved and won their share of games. However, it may take a little while for the junior high players to learn the game and take the next step before they will add many trophies to the trophy case.

*** In closing... I watched the Super Bowl and told myself early in the game that it looked like the NFL wanted the Steelers to take home the big trophy. Almost every call went against the Seahawks, and even when the ref would go to instant replay he made the wrong call on perhaps the biggest play of the game. I'm not accusing anyone of cheating, but the Super Bowl is big money and I believe the big money was on the Steelers!

YOUTH BASEBALL & SOFTBALL REGISTRATION BEGINS NEXT WEEK!!

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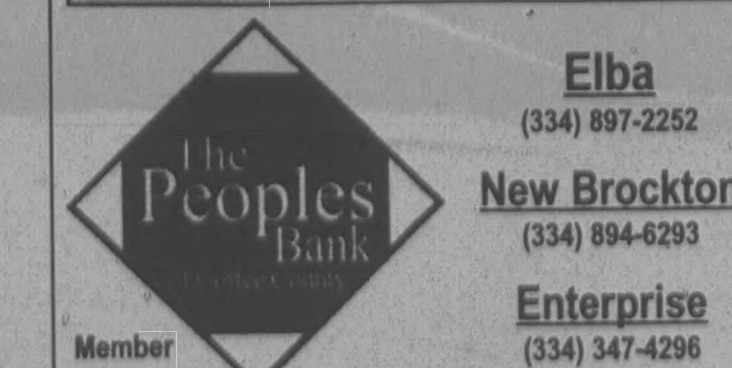
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In area tourney

Tigers ease past New Brockton in O.T. 70-67

The Elba Tigers tipped off the Class 2A, Area 5 Basketball Tournament last week at the Elba High gym and survived a first round scare from New Brockton as they advanced to the title game with a 70-67 overtime win over the Gamecocks. Reymar Rodgers converted on a free-throw in the closing seconds of regulation to send the game into the extra period, and the Tigers then took command as they upped their record to 18-7 on the season.

Elba closes regular season with 76-68 win over Straughn

The Elba Tigers closed out their regular season last Monday night in Straughn and improved their record to 17-7 with an exciting 73-68 win over the Straughn Tigers. Mason Gulley scored 23 points and Brandon Kelley added 20 to lead Elba, while Trevor Driver scored 17 to lead Straughn and Trenton Driver added 15.

Elba Lady Tigers bring home area tourney championship

The Elba Lady Tigers made the most of their two trips to Luverne High School last week as they posted wins over Highland Home and Luverne to bring home the Class 2A, Area 5 basketball championship.

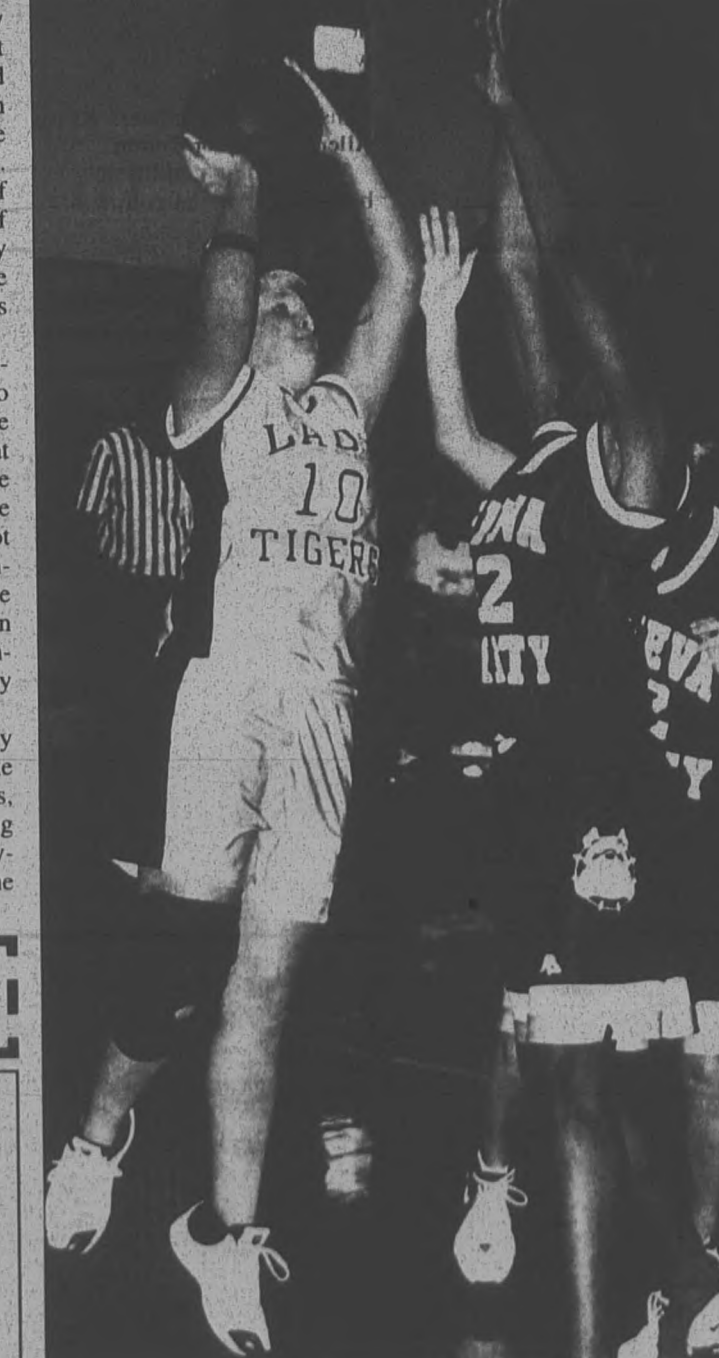
The two wins upped Elba's record to 10-11 and moved the Lady Tigers into the sub-regionals, set for tonight (Thursday) at 7:00 PM against Lanett, at the Elba High gym.

Elba opened the four-team tournament on Thursday night against Highland Home and

defeated the Lady Squadrons for the third time this season by a score of 42-38.

The Lady Tigers returned to Luverne Saturday night for the tournament championship and paid the host team back for two regular season losses as they surprised Luverne 54-50 to bring home the area title.

Whitney Lawford scored 16 points to lead Elba, while LaFonda Thigpen added 14 and Janae Canley scored 9. Jaleesa Franklin scored 20 points to lead Luverne.



ELBA LADY TIGER WHITNEY LAWFORD (10) takes a shot jumper over a defender in a recent win. The Lady Tigers won the Class 2A, Area 5 basketball tournament last week with wins over Highland Home and Luverne, and will host the sub-regionals tonight (Thursday) at 7 PM against Lanett.

Softball tourney set for Saturday in Elba

There will be a Men's Softball Tournament Saturday, Feb. 18, at Elba's Hawkins-Williams Park. Cost to enter is \$100 per team. Three to six homerun rule applies. Teams must provide regulation 44 core balls.

Deadline to enter is Thursday, Feb. 16, at 6 p.m. For more information, call (334) 470-810 or (334) 470-0811 after 5 p.m. nightly.

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ELBA TIGER SHAWN ABBOTT... soars to lay in a basket in a win over New Brockton. Elba defeated the Gamecocks 70-67 last week in the opening round of the area tournament, with Abbott leading the way with 17 points and 8 rebounds.

City of Opp Rattlesnake Rodeo set for April 1-2

The rattling you hear can only mean one thing—it is time for the 46th annual City of Opp Rattlesnake Rodeo. Being held April 1-2, 2006 at Channell-Lee Stadium, this year's event is headlined by country star Joe Nichols.

"The City of Opp is proud to offer a great weekend of fun for such an affordable price. A family of four can enjoy an entire weekend for only \$20," says H.D. Edgar, Mayor of Opp. "The Rodeo offers something for everyone."

A family-friendly festival, the City of Opp Rattlesnake Rodeo offers events and activities for

everyone, including arts and crafts vendors, food vendors, children's activities, Rattlesnake Rodeo Beauty Pageant, Songwriter's Workshop and Festival, gospel concerts, and of course, rattlesnake demonstrations.

Tickets at the gate will be \$8, with children 6 and under admitted free. VIP concert tickets go on sale online February 6. VIP ticket holders will be closest to the stage and are guaranteed to see the concert inside if it rains. For more information about the City of Opp Rattlesnake Rodeo, visit www.rattlesnakerodeo.com.

Mens softball tournaments to be held at Clayhatchee

Two men's softball tournaments will be held at the Clayhatchee Community Center in coming weeks.

The first tournament will be held on Feb. 25 and the entry fee is \$150 per team, with each team to provide its own regulation softballs. A 5 home-run rule will be in effect and the deadline to enter is Feb. 23 at 6:00 PM. Trophies will be awarded to the top three teams.

The second tournament will be held on March 4 and the entry fee will again be \$150 per team. Each team will provide its

own regulation softballs and a 5 home-run rule will be in effect. Trophies will be awarded to the top three teams and the deadline to enter is March 2 at 6:00 PM. To enter the events call Nancy (334) 598-4322 or Diane (334) 598-5547.

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SPORTS

In area toumney action

Zion Chapel makes early exit with loss to Providence

The Zion Chapel Rebels tipped off action last Tuesday night in the opening round of the Class 1A, Area 4 Basketball Tournament, in Arton, and saw a disappointing season come to an end with a 56-42 loss to Providence Christian.

The Rebels jumped out to a quick 3-0 lead on a three-pointer by John Wayne Lambert, but failed to score again in the opening stanza and watched as Providence Christian scored the quarter's next 13 points to open up a 13-3 advantage. Lambert drilled another three-pointer early in the second quarter to

pull Zion Chapel within 13-6, and the Rebels trailed only 17-10 with 3:28 left in the half after a driving lay-up by Adam Carter. Providence regained command late in the quarter; however, and by the end of the half owned a 25-14 lead over Zion Chapel.

The Rebels cut the deficit to 25-16 early in the third quarter on a basket by Byron McWaters, but Providence again had an answer for the Zion Chapel comeback plan and scored the game's next seven points to extend its lead to 32-16. Zion Chapel trailed 37-20 with 2:56

remaining in the stanza and appeared to be headed for a big loss. However, the Rebels again rallied and sparked by two long three-pointers by Ethan Mount outscored Providence 8-2 to pull within 39-28.

Zion Chapel continued to battle early in the fourth quarter and trailed only 45-37 with 3:10 left on the clock after a three-pointer by John Wayne Lambert and a free-throw by Abe Childs. Providence scored the game's next five points to open up a 50-37 lead with 2:46 remaining, and held on down the stretch to hand the Rebels the 56-42

defeat.

John Wayne Lambert scored 11 points to lead Zion Chapel, while Ethan Mount added 9. Chase and Reid both scored 16 points to lead Providence.

PC 13-12 16-15 56
ZC 3 11 14 42

P.C. (56): Chase 16, Charlton 4, Nobles 9, Granger 4, Reid 16, J. Nobles 4, Drake 3.
Z.C. (42): McWaters 2, Childs 6, Stephens 2, Lambert 11, Bundrick 2, Mount 9, Carter 6, Mancil 2.

Lady Rebels upset in opening round of area toumney by Arton 64-52

The Zion Chapel Lady Rebels opened post-season play last Tuesday night in the opening round of the Class 1A, Area 4 Basketball Tournament, in Arton, and saw a third quarter lead crumble under a furious Arton rally as the Lady Cats took command and pulled away to down the Lady Rebels 64-52.

Zion Chapel jumped out to an early 4-2 lead on baskets by Anna Wilson and Keri Hobbs, but watched as Arton went on a 9-0 run midway through the opening stanza and opened up a 15-6 advantage with 2:08 left in the quarter. Zion Chapel rallied late in the quarter behind the play of Torie Hodge and Erica Lewis and pulled within 19-17 with 6:34 remaining in the half on a bucket by Anna Wilson. Back-to-back baskets by Wilson midway through the quarter put the Lady Rebels back on top 25-23, and Zion Chapel took a 27-23 advantage with 2:57 left on a short jumper by Keri Hobbs. The two area rivals swapped baskets for the remainder of the quarter, and at the half the Lady Rebels went in holding a 31-27 lead.

Zion Chapel remained in command early in the third quarter and owned a 36-32 lead with 4:51 left in the stanza after a free-throw by Keri Hobbs. However, the Lady Rebels scored only one point the next three minutes of the period and watched as Arton went on a 14-1 run to take a 46-37 lead. The Lady Rebels closed to within 50-43 early in the fourth quarter on a three-pointer by Keri Hobbs and trailed 53-46 with 5:19 remaining after a basket by Ashley Parrish. Arton again answered the Lady Rebels' rally, however, as the Lady Cats went on a 9-2 run to move on top 62-48 with 2:16 still remaining. Zion Chapel battled until the final horn and scored with only :01 remaining on a lay-up by Ashley Parrish, but it was way too little, way too late, as the Lady Rebels saw their season end with the 64-52 loss.

Keri Hobbs scored 13 points and Anna Wilson added 12 to lead Zion Chapel, while B. Daniels scored 19 points to lead Arton.

Arton (64): Daniels 19, Hill 6, McLondon 15, C. McLondon 16, Wilson 4, Shanks 2, Hall 2.

Z.C. (52): Hodge 9, Lewis 7, Wilson 12, Hobbs 13, Parrish 6, D. Flowers 2, K. Flowers 2, Hall 2.

Following the....
Tournament Trail

Brantley Lady Bulldogs ousted in area tournament opener 73-62

The Brantley Lady Bulldogs saw their season come to an end Thursday night with a 73-62 loss to Providence Christian, in the opening round of the Class 1A, Area 4 tournament. Sherry Guiley poured in 27 points to

lead the Lady Bulldogs, while Jessica Daniels added 15 and Toranda Randall scored 14. Tera Holloway scored 25 points to lead Providence and Rebecca Dowd added 22.

Lady Gamecocks eliminated in opening round by Luverne 38-18

The New Brockton Lady Gamecocks saw their season come to an abrupt end Thursday night in the opening round of the Class 2A, Area 5 Tournament, in Luverne, when they lost to the

host Luverne Lady Tigers 38-18. Valerie Hutcherson scored 5 points to lead the Lady Gamecocks, while Jaleisa Franklin scored 10 points to lead Luverne.

Registration is now open for New Brockton ball teams

Anyone interested in playing baseball or softball with the city of New Brockton needs to register at this time. Forms can be picked up at New

Brockton elementary School (89406152). Registration fee is \$20.00. Deadline for registering is Friday, February 17th.

"Representing the Wiregrass

in the State Senate has been a great honor. I'm running for re-election so we can continue to make progress in education, job recruitment, and keeping our neighborhoods and schools safe. My commitment is that I will continue working to improve the quality of life for all of us who are lucky enough to call the Wiregrass home."

Jimmy W. Holley

JIMMY HOLLEY
SENATE • DISTRICT 31



Photo by Bob McMillan for the Wiregrass Regional Chamber of Commerce.



TWO FROM THE CORNER... A Zion Chapel Rebel fires in a basket from deep in the corner in recent high school basketball action. The Rebels ended their season last week with a loss in the area tournament.

(Photo by Laura Baxley)



ZION CHAPEL LADY REBEL TORIE HODGE (2) ... out jumps an opponent for a loose ball in recent high school basketball action. The Lady Rebels saw their season end last week with a loss in the area tournament.

(Photo by Laura Baxley)

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SPORTS

Youth basketball season continues with plenty of scoring in both boys and girls leagues

The Elba Jr. NBA/Jr. WNBA Youth Basketball League, sponsored by the Elba Department of Parks and Recreation, continued its season last week with nine games being played in six divisions.

Following are highlights of last week's action:

BOYS 10 AND UNDER

Elba Black 22 Elba White 19 - The Elba Black pulled ahead early and held on late to defeat the Elba White 22-19. The Elba Black jumped out to a 6-2 first

quarter advantage and led 11-8 heading into the fourth quarter, but had to hold on late to escape with the exciting win. Scoring for the Elba Black were Cobe Goosby 12, Raheem Newson 6, Jaelyn Newson 2 and Kysan Edwards 2. Scoring for the Elba White were Harry Griffin 8, Logan Bailey 4, Aquante Jones 2, Nick Green 2, Reggie Diehl 2 and Matthew Marler 1.

Elba Black vs. Elba Gold - Scoring for the Elba Black were Nicholas Johnson, Braxton Robinson, Isaiah Kyles, Kendre Jordan, Jason Hammonds, Walter Craighead, Omar Whitfield, Marquize Whitfield and Gavin Caldwell. Scoring for the Elba Gold were Erick Davis, Jaden Person, Jeremiah Jordan, Tanner Herrington, Jundaris Reed, C.J. Edwards, Tony O'Neil Daniels and Winston Kelley.

Elba White 15 Elba Gold 7 - The Elba White pulled ahead early and easily held on to down the Elba Gold 15-7. The Elba White owned a slim 3-0 lead at the half, but poured in 12 second half points to roll to the win. Scoring for the Elba White were Denzell Thomas 4, Griffin Martin 4, Martavious Gray 3, Bradley Weeks 2 and Brosnan

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During Elba BOE meeting Superintendent says elementary reading program received "exceptional report"

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba City School Board monthly meeting was held Tuesday night, Feb. 7th.

The board approved a new Worthless Check Policy as required by the state department of education. This approved policy sets a step by step system of notifying worthless check writers of the problem. The last section requires the maker of such checks to make payments in cash for the remainder of the school year.

The board renewed an agreement to use Family Services of Enterprise as the At Risk Community Agency. Such an

agreement is required for federal funds.

Superintendent Danny Weeks reported that the local system got an "exceptional report" on the ongoing intensive reading program in the schools. He said state department representatives visited every classroom and had very high praise for the reading progress being made in the Elba schools.

Weeks also briefly discussed legislative issues and what they can expect from the regular session of the Alabama legislature.

CITY

(Continued from Page One)

noted that several departments were over budget due to special circumstances, but he was happy to report the overall spending was actually below budget.

The council voted to move forward with demolition of more of the old high school

building. Grimes said that for an additional \$15,000 the part of the building adjoining the old gym could be demolished. Included in this would be the removal of the remaining debris from knocking down the Jr High wing last year.

Monthly bills totaling \$137,106.86 were approved for payment. The mayor noted the \$14,456.90 bill from Waste Management for garbage pick-up should be the last major payment to that firm. The City of Elba assumed this responsibility on January 30th of this year.

City Clerk Wayne Grantham reported that the garbage pick-up transition was going smoothly. He added that the city crews are getting the old dumpsters out of the way and placing them in a staging area until Waste Away could pick them up.

Grimes said he is still disappointed with the vandalism within the city. He added that there were two more incidents of destruction of property last weekend. According to the clerk, the police are working these cases hard, and Elba will prosecute those caught for such acts.

Grimes reported that the Federal Aviation Authority has approved a grant of \$144,305 to Elba for acquiring land to extend the landing approach at the local airport.

He also noted that the dedication of the new diagnostic lab had been postponed until a later date.

McAliley said one of the first things Sheriff Thomas said to him when he assumed the job as

SE Alabama Community Band plans Monday evening concert in Elba

The Southeast Alabama Community Band will perform a concert Monday, Feb. 20, at 7:30 p.m. in the Elba High School auditorium. The concert is free and the public is invited to attend. Dr. John M. Long, Conductor Emeritus of the Troy University Band is the conductor of this group.

The community band consists of adult members from many professions including school administrators, Troy University music faculty members, school band directors, physicians, and other business men and women.

The concert will consist of traditional overtures, marches, and Broadway show tunes that will be known by the audience. The featured conductor at the

Elba concert will be Tom Maddox, who will conduct Richard Wagner's beautiful composition "Elsa's Procession to the Cathedral".

Dr. Long said Tom Maddox is truly one of the very best conductors in the state, and the band is honored to have him conduct. Mr. Maddox is also a member of the community band and is the director of the Elba Elementary School Bands.

Of course, the community band will play some of the great Sousa Marches which all the lovers of band music enjoy so much.

The concert is sponsored by the City of Elba and the Elba School Band program. Come and bring the family for a night of American Band Music.

MURDER

(Continued from Page One)

Elmore County.

"I feel very, very certain as the chief prosecutor that we now have the person responsible," District Attorney Gary McAliley said.

According to Thomas, local authorities requested and obtained a blood sample from the California scientist who performed an autopsy on Sims at the time of his death. From that sample, he said test results proved with a high degree of confidence that Sims was the source of the semen from the vaginal swabs taken from Reeves' body.

"This case has remained a top priority in the Pike County Sheriff's Department, the Twelfth Circuit District Attorney's office, the coroner's office and the Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences for the past 12 1/2 years," said Thomas. "We all have continued to tirelessly investigate and pursue all leads and we never gave up hope this case would one day be solved."

After several months of preparation, Medlock spent Feb. 10-19 in Montgomery, Ala., as a participant in the 2006 Alabama Junior Miss Scholarship Program, an event where 52 young ladies competed for scholarship monies.

While the week was long and filled with many, many rehearsals, Medlock said she enjoyed the overall experience and made many good friends.

With one now solved in Pike County and one already solved in Coffee County, McAliley said his office and local law officials are not through yet. He said they will continue to work solve all these cases.

Elba city clerk Wayne Grantham said this is an ongoing problem for the city, and the problem area seems to always be the same. The only difference is which light the vandals choose to damage each time.

However, it was not all work and no play. Medlock said she and the other participants attending several outings to places such as the Montgomery Zoo and the Cattleman's Association. Also, she said various functions were held at night.

The participants spent the week as guests of host families, and Medlock said she had a nice house to go home to at night. She said there was a movie theater in the house.

The host families volunteer to open their homes to the Junior Miss participants, and Medlock said "they become your family that week."

She said the host family would wait up for her at night, as well as, feed and entertain. Also, she said she attended church on Sunday with her host family.

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The Elba Clipper

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Elba, Alabama

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1 Section, 12 Pages

Vandals continue to cause damage along walking trail of Elba's levee

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Officials with the City of Elba continue to search for the person(s) responsible for ongoing vandalism within the city.

Recently it was reported that vandals continuously damage the lights along the walking trail on top of the levee in the section between Caroline Street and Hwy. 189 (Kinston Hwy.).

Officials said this week that vandals have continued to cause damage in that area.

Elba city clerk Wayne Grantham said this is an ongoing problem for the city, and the problem area seems to always be the same. The only difference is which light the vandals choose to damage each time.

Grantham said the vandalism generally seems to take place during the weekend, usually either a Friday or Saturday night. As a matter of fact, he said vandals damaged one of the lights last weekend. When discovered, Grantham said the lighting unit had been kicked loose from a concrete structure and was lying on the ground.

It costs about \$300 each to replace the complete light unit. Most of the time, Grantham said it seems the vandals cause more damage closer to Caroline Street, but he said the unit damaged last weekend was about halfway between Caroline Street and the Kinston Highway.

City officials continue to look at ways to catch the person(s) responsible for these acts of vandalism, and Grantham said they are moving forward with their efforts.

Officials hope local citizens also will help them in their attempt to capture the responsible person(s) as the walking trail is considered a nice asset for the community.

The person(s) responsible could face criminal mischief charges carrying a sentence of anywhere from one to 10 years in jail and a fine up to \$5,000 depending on the value of the property damaged.

Anyone noticing suspicious activity in this area is encouraged to contact the Elba Police Department at 897-2555 or Elba City Hall at 897-2333.

Elba's Casey Medlock represents Coffee County at Alabama Junior Miss Scholarship Program

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Elba's Casey Medlock completed a journey last week that began August 13, 2005 after she was named Coffee County Junior Miss.

After several months of preparation, Medlock spent Feb. 10-19 in Montgomery, Ala., as a participant in the 2006 Alabama Junior Miss Scholarship Program, an event where 52 young ladies competed for scholarship monies.

While the week was long and filled with many, many rehearsals, Medlock said she enjoyed the overall experience and made many good friends.

During the week, she said the program participants rehearsed everyday. Rehearsals were held for a fitness routine, self-expression routine and an opening number routine.

Having the host family was a welcome experience for Medlock as she was not allowed, due to Junior Miss program rules, to communicate

with her family and friends during the week. She could only write to and receive letters from home.

It was the longest time

Medlock has ever been away from home, and she said she

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Elba's Casey Medlock, center, was named the Overall Academics Preliminary winner during last weekend's 2006 Alabama Junior Miss Scholarship Program held at the Garrett Coliseum in Montgomery.

Elba police officer returns to work after completing military duty in Iraq

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Elba Police officer Gerald Stanley returned last Friday, Feb. 17, to his duty of patrolling the streets of Elba alongside the other members of the police department; however, that duty is much different and many miles from the duty he fulfilled from Nov. 7, 2004 until Feb. 1, 2006.

Stanley, a member of the 3rd Battalion, 117th Field Artillery's National Guard unit of Elba, returned home Tuesday, Jan. 31, with his unit after 15-months of active duty in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. It marked the second time Stanley had completed an activation of duty since Operation Iraqi Freedom began.

While in Iraq, Stanley said his unit mostly provided security for military convoys from "Point A to Point B." He said it was their job to make sure each convoy got where it was supposed to go.

"I think we ended up with about a million miles of convoy transport," said Stanley. "We went on over 700 missions outside the wire."

Luckily, Stanley said the unit never lost anyone while in Iraq. He did say there was one member of the unit wounded, and he received the Purple Heart for his service.

Now, Stanley said he is definitely glad to be home. "More than you'll ever know," he insists.

So much in fact, he jokingly

has been operating understaffed for quite some time, and the return of Officer Stanley will alleviate some of the burdens caused by such things.

Hanchey said the department still has one officer actively deployed to Germany, but he is scheduled to also return later this year.

Stanley said Hanchey has been real helpful in getting him situated back in the job. Also, he said it has been real exceptional how everyone associated with

has been operating understaffed for quite some time, and the return of Officer Stanley will alleviate some of the burdens caused by such things.

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Sen. Richard Shelby announces funds for rehabilitation center

Senate Appropriations Committee announced recently that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development will release \$277,880 for the City of Enterprise.

The funding will expand the Wiregrass Rehabilitation Center in the Enterprise Business Incubator.

Senator Shelby said, "I am pleased that these funds are being released to continue the good works at the Wiregrass Rehabilitation Center. USDA grants and loans are an invaluable tool for economic and job growth throughout Alabama."

The funding will create at least 10 new jobs and keep 43 existing jobs in Enterprise.

REMINDER
The build week for the Elba Playground Project has been changed to Sept. 19-23.

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I heard from
a Birdie
that ?????? turned
30!

Thank You

Perhaps you sang a lovely song
Or sat quietly in a chair;
Perhaps you sent beautiful flowers,
If so we saw them there.

Perhaps you sent or spoke kind words
As any friend could say;
Perhaps you stayed at home,
Just thought of us that day.

Perhaps you prepared some tasty food,
Or maybe furnished a car;
Perhaps you rendered a service unseen,
Near at hand or from afar,
We thank you so much—whatever the part.

The Family of the late
Estelle McKinney Holloway

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Come by and see our complete line of trades-ins. These listed here are just part of our huge inventory.



8217P 2004 MAZDA 6
Sharp - Good on Gas



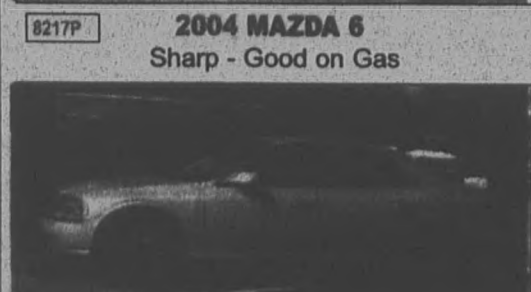
8204P 2005 Chrysler 3000
Sharp - AT - Hemi



8208P 2005 TRAILBLAZER EXT
Very Clean - Under Warranty



8214P 2005 COLORADO Reg. Cab - AT4
Great on Gas - Under Warranty



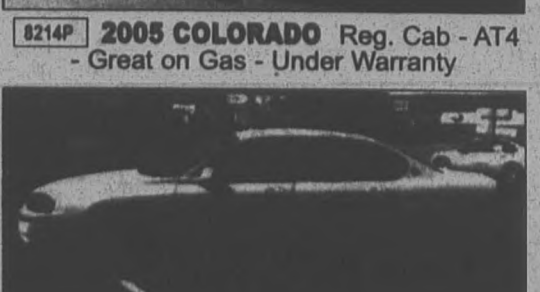
8198P 2002 LINCOLN LS
AT-8 - Sharp



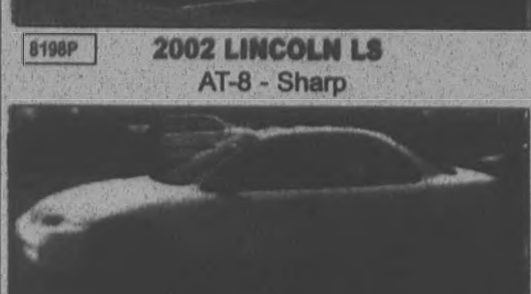
T401B 2004 NISSAN TITAN
CrewCab - 4x2 - AT-8



8199P 2005 HYUNDAI XG 350
AT-6



T474B 2005 IMPALA SEDAN
Under Warranty - Six to Choose From



8219P 2004 CAVALIER SEDAN
Great on Gas



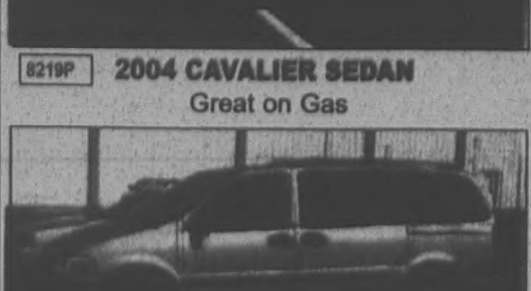
T406A 2004 AVOLON XLS
Local Trade



8188P 2005 TOYOTA COROLLA CE
AT-4



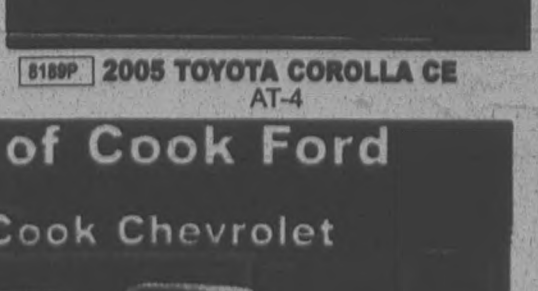
8213P 2005 CHEVROLET Z71
CrewCab - Sharp Truck - Very Clean



8188P 2002 VENTURE VAN LS EXT
Very Clean



T405B 2004 NISSAN PATHFINDER LE
Leather - Sunroof - AT-6



8188P 2005 TOYOTA COROLLA CE
AT-4



8213P 2005 CHEVROLET Z71
CrewCab - Sharp Truck - Very Clean

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BLACK HISTORY month A Beautiful Soul

Mrs. King traveled the world
spreading peace
she was loved by many
her beauty never ceased.

Many Kings and Queens
were at her call
her love for humanity
she had it for all.

She was there for her husband
with dignity and grace
so this land we live
would be a better place.

You have deposited with us
what the Lord gave you
not only the Doctor's work
but your work too.

The work is not finished
we know this to be true
we'll keep pecking on the rock
until it breaks through.

When you get to heaven
tell Dr. King
his life on Earth
changed many things.

And if you should see sister Rosa Parks
take a look at her feet
bug her and embrace her
for not giving up her seat.

God bless your work
you have done all you can
now it's time for others
to take a peaceful stand.

Stand up for something
make a stand for love
God bless every body
beyond and above.

Written by Wanzel Gray (2-19-06)

Area Happenings

TREASURE FOREST ASSOCIATION ANNUAL WOODWOOD SEEDING GIVE-A-WAY will be held Saturday, Feb. 25, at the office of Time Limited Forestry Inc. from 9:00 a.m. until 12 noon, located at 2045 County Road 364, 1/2 mile west of Coffee County Lake.

THE ELBA LIONS CLUB ANNUAL PANCAKE BREAKFAST will be Saturday, March 4, from 6-10 a.m. at the Elba Senior Citizens building.

MISSING INTERNATIONAL INC. OF JACK will sponsor the Miss Zion Chapel pageant Sunday, April 1, at the Zion Chapel High School auditorium. The pageant has as follows: Junior Miss (4 yrs - Kindergarten), Little Miss (1st graders only), Junior Miss (7th-10th graders), and Miss (17 yrs-21yrs).